

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claim Status/Amendments

Claims 43-73 remain pending in the application. Claims 56-71 and 73 stand withdrawn.

Rejections under 35 USC § 112

Claims 43-55 and 72 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. In response, claim 43 has been amended and it is submitted that the rejection has been overcome.

Claims 43-55 and 72 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with an enablement requirement. In response, claim 43 has been amended and it is submitted that the rejection has been overcome.

Rejections under 35 USC § 103

Claims 43-55 and 72 are rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over JP 05-201872 or Lawhon et al. (US 4,643,902) with evidence from Gobel et al. (US 4,491,600). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

The claimed invention is structurally different from the applied prior art JP 05-201872 and Lawhon et al US Patent No: 4,643,902) and is not disclosed in the hitherto known prior art. At the very least the six solenoids which are called for are neither disclosed nor suggested by either of the above-mentioned references. Inasmuch as Gobel et al. is relied solely for suggesting that recirculation can be carried out if desired, its teachings are to be otherwise ignored.

Early issuance of a Notice of Allowance is courteously solicited.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned, Applicant's attorney of record, to facilitate advancement of the present application.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 07-1337 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
LOWE HAUPTMAN & BERNER, LLP

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kenneth M. Berner".

Kenneth M. Berner
Registration No. 37,093

USPTO Customer No. 22429
1700 Diagonal Road, Suite 300
Alexandria, VA 22314
(703) 684-1111
(703) 518-5499 Facsimile
Date: February 12, 2008
KMB/KT/ser